

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 DHA-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WSHDC PRIORITY 9685

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA PRIORITY

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 1668

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CU, MX, HO, NU

SUBJECT: LOS ROBLES PARTICIPANT TESTIFIES

REF: MANAGUA 1437

1. GON AUTHORITIES PRODUCED FOR THE FIRST TIME AN ADMITTED PARTICIPANT IN THE 1974 LOS ROBLES TERRORIST INCIDENT ON APRIL 5 AND REQUIRED HIM TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE MILITARY COURT OF INVESTIGATION ABOUT FSLN ACTIVITIES. THE SUBJECT, JAVIER ALONSO CARRION, 23, IS THE SCION OF ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S ELITE FAMILIES (HIS FATHER HAS DONE LEGAL WORK FOR THE EMBASSY IN THE PAST) AND IS THE COUSIN OF LUIS CARRION, A IDEOLOGUE OF THE FSLN DOMINANT FACTIONS.

2. CARRION, UNREPENTANT ABOUT HIS FSLN MEMBERSHIP, TESTIFIED SUCCINCTLY, BUT SEEMINGLY UNEVASIVELY ABOUT THE EVENTS SURROUNDING THE LOS ROBLES AFFAIR. HE RELATED THAT HE WAS RECRUITED BY HIS COUSIN IN LATER 1973, ATTENDED VARIOUS TRAINING SEMINARS THROUGH THE FIRST PART OF 1974, WENT UNDERGROUND IN AUGUST AND LIVED IN A SAFE-HOUSE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF MANAGUA WITH 14 OTHERS UNTIL HE WAS GIVEN ORDERS RELATING TO THE LOS ROBLES ATTACK IN DECEMBER

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JUST A FEW HOURS BEFORE THE SCHEME WAS PUT IN MOTION. CARRION

DECLARED HE TRAVELLED TO CUBA AFTER THE SUCCESS OF THE LOS ROBLES ATTACK, UNDERWENT IDEOLOGICAL ORIENTATION AND PARA-MILITARY TRAINING IN HAVANA FOR THREE MONTHS, BEFORE LEAVING FOR MEXICO AND ENTERING NICARAGUA VIA THE HONDURAN BORDER LAST YEAR. CARRION MENTIONED IN HIS TESTIMONY THAT HE HAD PERSONALLY COUNTED THE \$1 MILLION RANSOM FROM THE GON WHEN HE WAS ABOARD THE PLANE FOR CUBA.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH CARRION'S APPEARANCE WAS A SURPRISE, SOMETHING OF THE SORT WAS EXPECTED IN VIEW OF THE GON'S ALLUSION LAST WEEK (REFTEL) TO THE FACT THAT SOME OF THE LOS ROBLES PARTICIPANTS HAD RETURNED TO NICARAGUA. WHILE THE GON IS OBVIOUSLY INVOLVED IN SOME PSYCHOLOGICAL PLOY IN INTRODUCING CARRION AND HIS TESTIMONY AT THIS POINT, THE PRECISE GOAL, EXCEPT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CUBAN CONNECTION, IS NOT YET CLEAR. THUS FAR, WHILE THE CAPTURE OF CARRION HAS SERVED TO IMPROVE THE IMAGE OF THE SECURITY SERVICES, OWING TO HIS FAMILIAL TIES WITH WELL-KNOWN LIBERALS AND CONSERVATIVES, IT HAS ALSO STIRRED UP SOME CONCERN AMONG THE ESTABLISHMENT ABOUT THE SOCIO-POLITICAL CAUSES OF CARRION'S ALLEGIANCE TO THE FSLN.

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